

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CU-04 SSO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

INRE-00 L-03 EB-11 SCI-06 EPA-04 CEQ-02 TRSY-11 CPR-02

FEA-02 DRC-01 /092 W

----- 021988

O R 230745Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1496

USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

USMISSION GENEVA

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USDOC FOR US COMMISSIONER GENERAL FOR EXPO '74;  
DEPT FOR NEA/ARP: DICKMAN & LUMSDEN

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SCUL, TC

SUBJ: UAE PARTICIPATION IN EXPO 74

REF: STATE CA A-1634, DTD FEB 27, 1974 AND PREVIOUS

### SUMMARY:

EMB INFORMED APRIL 22 THAT AS RESULT INTERCESSION FORMIN  
SUWAIDI, UAEG IN PROCESS REVERSING PREVIOUS CABINET DECISION  
AND NOW WISHES PARTICIPATE TO DEGREE POSSIBLE IN EXPO '74  
IN MAY IN SPOKANE. EMB STRONGLY ENDORSES EXPO '74 AUTHORITIES  
MAKING MAXIMUM EFFORT TO ACCOMODATE UAE PARTICIPATION AND  
HELP ASSURE ITS SUCCESS. IF UAE PARTICIPATES IN FAIR, IT  
ALSO PLANNING FOR TOURING EXHIBITION OF US. BELIEVE THIS  
REPRESENTS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN BI-LATERAL  
RELATIONS AT TIME WHEN UAE OPENING EMB IN WASH AND USG UP-  
GRADING ITS DIPL ESTABLISHMENT IN ABU DHABI.

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ACTION REQUESTED: AUTHORIZATION SOONEST BASED ON ASSURANCES FROM EXPO '74 TO PROCEED TO WORK OUT DETAILS IN COOPERATION WITH UAEG FOR MAXIMUM FEASIBLE PARTICIPATION INCLUDING ANY SEMI-FORMAL LETTERS OF REASSURANCE THAT LESS THAN FULL EXHIBIT WELCOME.

1. ECON OFFICERS HOWELL AND LIMBERT MET APRIL 22 WITH ABDULLAH DAOUD WHO IN CHARGE OF INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN UAE MINYINFO AND TOURISM. MEETING WAS AT REQUEST OF DAOUD WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM 45-DAY TOUR OF ARAB COUNTRIES AND UN TOURISM BODY IN GENEVA.

2. AS BACKGROUND, IN EARLY 1974 DAOUD, WHO WAS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ABU DHABI PAVILLION AT EXPO 1970 IN JAPAN, AND OTHER ELEMENTS WITHIN THE UAEG WERE QUITE ANXIOUS TO PARTICIPATE IN SPOKANE. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF REORGANIZATION OF UAEG IN LATE 1973, ETC., OTHER ELEMENTS CONSIDERED THAT MINYINFO WOULD NOT BE CAPABLE OF PREPARING A CREDITABLE EXHIBITION IN TIME FOR EXPO '74. THOUGH DAOUD DISAGREED AND HAD THE BACKING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR PARTICIPATION, THE UAE CABINET TOOK AT THAT TIME A DECISION NOT RPT NOT TO STAGE IN EXHIBITION IN SPOKANE. THE EMBASSY HAS CONSTANTLY BEEN ASSURED THAT THE TIME FACTOR AND THE RELATIVE STATE OF DISORGANIZATION WITHIN THE MINY WERE THE ONLY FACTORS IN THE DECISION.

3. DAOUD INFORMED THE EMBASSY APRIL 22 THAT THE UAE NOW WISHES PARTICIPATE TO DEGREE POSSIBLE IN EXPO '74 AND FUTURE INTERNATIONAL EVENTS IN US. SAID HE HAD RECENTLY BEEN ASKED BY FORMIN SUWAIDI, WHO INFLUENTIAL WITH PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID, WHY UAE WAS NOT SCHEDULED TO SEND EXHIBIT TO US. SUWAIDI HIGHLY IRRITATED AT STATE OF AFFAIRS AND STATED THAT, HAD HE BEEN IN COUNTRY AT TIME OF CABINET CONSIDERATION, HE WOULD NOT HAVE ACCEPTED DECISION. SUWAIDI HAS ASKED DAOUD TO RESUBMIT PROPOSAL FOR SUCH PARTICIPATION AS CAN BE ARRANGED IN TIME REMAINING AND DAOUD IS RAPIDLY MODIFYING PREVIOUS PROPOSAL TO CABINET FOR RESUBMISSION. SUWAIDI, HE SAID, HAS EMPHASIZED THAT UAE MUST DO ALL IN ITS POWER TO INCREASE MUTUAL KNOWLEDGE AND STRENGTHEN GOOD RELATIONS WITH UAE'S AMERICAN FRIENDS.

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4. IN MEANTIME, DAOUD WHO REALISTIC ABOUT LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY TIME FACTOR HAS ASKED FOR CLOSEST COOPERATION WITH HOWELL AND LIMBERT IN SIMULTANEOUS PREPARATIONS FOR UAE PRESENCE AT SPOKANE. HE IS WORKING TO DETERMINE EXTENT OF POSSIBLE UAE PARTICIPATION AND HAS, MEANTIME, ASKED THAT EMBASSY NOTIFY PROPER AUTHORITIES AND DETERMINE WELCOME OF UAE AT SPOKANE AND THAT EMBASSY SUBMIT LETTER OR OTHER SEMI-OFFICIAL DOCUMENT EXPRESSING APPRECIATION OF UAE'S INABILITY MOUNT FULL-SCALE

EXHIBITION BUT REASSURING THAT UAE PARTICIPATION, WITHIN LIMITS MINY'S CAPABILITY, WILL BE RECEIVED POSITIVELY. DAOUD AND SUPPORTERS, INCLUDING SUWAIDI, NEED SUCH DOCUMENT TO USE IN PUSHING APPROVAL THROUGH UAE CABINET.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPT CONTACT EXPO '74 AUTHORITIES ASAP TO ELICIT RESPONSE AND IDEA OF WHAT ROLE UAE COULD PLAY IN SPOKANE. DAOUD SAYS MINIMUM PARTICIPATION WOULD BE OFFICIAL PRESENCE OF UAE REPRESENTATIVES AT SPOKANE, BUT WOULD HOPE HAVE SOME SPACE AVAILABLE FOR EXHIBIT OF LARGELY PHOT-CENTERED EXHIBIT. DELEGATION WOULD THEN PLAN HAVE REPRESENTATIVES WITH BROCHURES, SOUVENIRS, ETC. PRESENT FOR DURATION OF EVENT. DAOUD WORKING UP ESTIMATES OF SIZE OF DELEGATION, SPACE NEEDED, ETC. AND ILL PROVIDE THESE TO EMBASSY WITHIN NEXT SEVERAL DAYS. IN ADDITION, UAEG, WITH ASSISTANCE OF UAE UN MISSION IN NEW YORK AND NEW EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WOULD HOPE PLAN STAGING OF EXHIBITION IN SEVERAL MAJOR CITIES THROUGHOUT US. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE AUTHORIZATION TO SEND IN NEXT SEVERAL DAYS LETTER ALONG GENERAL LINES SET FORTH PARA 4 ABOVE AND PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON MOST URGENT DATA EXPO '74 AUTHORITIES NEED TO SET PREPARATIONS IN MOTION. DEPT MAY EITHER PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH TEXT OR AUTHORIZE EMBASSY TO DRAFT. ALSO WOULD APPRECIATE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR ARRANGING TOURING EXHIBITION WITHIN US. EMBASSY SUGGESTS, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT EXHIBIT BE DISPLAYED IN EXHIBITION AREA OF DEPT FOR SEVERAL DAYS FOR BENEFIT DEPT PERSONNEL. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.

6. EMBASSY RECOGNIZES THAT UAE PARTICIPATION AT THIS LATE DATE WILL INEVITABLY CREATE SOME DIFFICULTIES. EMBASSY STRONGLY SUGGESTS, HOWEVER, THAT EVERY EFFORT BE BENT TOWARD MAKING UAE PARTICIPATION A SUCCESS. IN TERMS OF BILATERAL RELATIONS, WARM RECEPTION WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IN UAE AND WILL SET PRECEDENT FOR THIS YOUNG STATE FOR FUTURE COOPERATION WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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US. COMING AT TIME OF EXPANSION OF DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION BY UAE IN WASH AND USG IN ABU DHABI, EVENT WILL EFFECTIVELY PUNCTUATE IMPORTANCE BOTH STATES ATTACH TO FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION. IN TERMS OF EXPO '74 ITSELF, UAE PRESENCE WILL GIVE PARTICIPATION OF YOUNGEST ARAB STATE AND WILL PROVIDE SOLID EVIDENCE OF CLOSE RELATIONS DEVELOPING WITH STATE WHICH WAS FIRST TO IMPOSE BOYCOTT ON PETROLEUM SHIPMENTS TO US LAST YEAR. CONSEQUENTLY, UAE'S PRESENCE IN US COULD HAVE OVERTONES IN TERMS OF INTER-ARAB POLITICS, SUPPORTING THE STAND OF EGYPT AND OTHER ARAB ELEMENTS WHICH US HOPES TO FOSTER. FINALLY, UAE PRESENCE WOULD HAVE POSITIVE EFFECT ON COMMERCIAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND UAEG. UAE, FOR EXAMPLE, VERY INTERESTED IN ENCOURAGING TOURISM FROM US AND DAOUD SAID THAT UAE DELEGATION WOULD WISH MAKE CONTACTS WITH US TRAVEL AGENTS AND COMPANIES WHICH CAN COOPERATE IN MUTUAL EXCHANGE OF

VISITORS BETWEEN US AND UAE. IN THIS CONNECTION, WOULD HOPE  
USG COULD AT LEAST SEE WAY CLEAR PROVIDE THIS EMBASSY WITH  
PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED DOZEN TRAVEL POSTERS AND OTHER US TOURISM  
PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS. WITH ABU DHABI PARTICIPATING IN  
SPOKANE THIS SUMMER WOULD EXPECT SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF UAE  
CITIZENS TO PLAN VISIT US THIS YEAR. FINALLY, MINYINFO AND  
TOURISM ACTIVELY PLANNING FOR DEVELOPMENT TOURISM FACILITIES  
HERE AND DELEGATION WOULD BE PRIME CONTACT FOR US FIRMS  
INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THIS DEVELOPMENT.  
GRIFFIN

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## Message Attributes

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**Draft Date:** 23 APR 1974  
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